U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney
District of New Hampshire

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MEDIA RELEASE   **Thomas P. Colantuono**
For Immediate Release   **United States Attorney**
July 23, 2004

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LYNN, MASSACHUSETTS MAN SENTENCED FOR MAKING FALSE STATEMENTS TO U.S. GOVERNMENT IN CONNECTION WITH FRAUDULENT USE OF NASHUA POST OFFICE BOX

Re: United States v. Danda ERIYO

    CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE: United States Attorney Tom Colantuono announced that Danda ERIYO, age 39, of Lynn, Massachusetts, was sentenced on July 22, 2004 on his conviction for making false statements to the U.S. government in connection with his fraudulent use of a Nashua post office box.

    On April 5, 2004, ERIYO was convicted after a bench (non-jury) trial before U.S. District Judge Paul J. Barbadoro of knowingly and willfully making a false writing containing a materially false, fictitious or fraudulent statement or entry, by signing a United States Postal Service Form 3849 with a false name in connection with his fraudulent use of a post office box at the Nashua, N.H. Post Office under that false name. Eriyo used the post office box to apply for credit cards under a false identity, and to incur over $20,000 in unpaid credit card charges between 1994 and 1998.

    At sentencing, Judge Barbadoro sentenced ERIYO to a three year period of probation and ordered him to pay restitution to two credit card companies – $14,079.54 to First USA Bank, and $4,858.15 to Chase Manhattan Bank.

    U.S. Attorney Colantuono stated, "My office is committed to aggressively prosecuting those who engage in all forms of identity fraud, including schemes which involve the fraudulent use of the facilities of the U.S. Postal Service."

    The conviction resulted from an investigation by the Criminal Investigation Division of the U.S. Postal Service. The prosecution was handled by Assistant United States Attorney Joseph N. Laplante.